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Weekly, One Year, 1.25

OFFICES.
The Bee Building,
201-203 North 15th Street,
Chicago, Ill., 2nd Floor.

CORRESPONDENCE.
All communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, Department.

BUSINESS LETTERS.
All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Neb. Drafts, checks and postal orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors.
The Bee Building, Farnam and Seventeenth Sts.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Circulation figures for various months from May 1897 to May 1898.

George B. Trachuck, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending May 15, 1898, was as follows:

State of Nebraska, ss.
County of Douglas, ss.
George B. Trachuck, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, that the actual average daily circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the month of May, 1898, is 6,500 copies.

Single copy postage rates.
8-page paper, 1 cent; Foreign 2 cents
12-page paper, 1 cent; Foreign 2 cents
16-page paper, 2 cents; Foreign 3 cents
20-page paper, 2 cents; Foreign 3 cents
24-page paper, 2 cents; Foreign 3 cents

The proxy must go. Let the republican state central committee take head.

The resolutions of the anti-monopoly republican conference are strong, straight and to the point.

KANSAS CITY is wrestling with a deficit of twenty thousand dollars in her treasury's accounts.

The railroads must go. Let the railroad capper must seek another occupation.

The passage of an ordinance regulating the construction of fences is timely. The fences of the authors will require considerable repair before snow flies.

An Iowa jury fixes seven hundred dollars as a sufficient sum for the incensed feelings of a man treated to a coat of tar and feathers. The price is excessive and will discourage costumes of the class.

The country will have a profound sigh of relief now that bristles are removed from the free list. A duty of ten cents a pound will strengthen the spinal column of the nation.

The sudden disappearance of "Our Val" from the list of candidates for sergeant-at-arms gives color to the melancholy suspicion that the West Point statesman has been given an involuntary bath in the senatorial bouillon.

The federal authorities are determined to bring the Florida assassins and ruffians to punishment. The United States marshal, backed by a revenue cutter, is scouring the country in the vicinity of Cedar Keys for the leader of the gang, who has held the office of mayor. The crimes of this desperado surpass the bloodiest efforts of western freebooters. He has exercised the powers of a petty tyrant, threatening and shooting peaceable citizens and coercing federal officials.

The liberality of the Western Union in catering to the public is singularly unselfish. With almost reckless liberality the company contributes a two-column serial through the Associated Press, without money and without price, solely to prove that Dr. Nervin Green, president of the company, is opposed to the postal telegraph. Of course he is not moved by fear of competition, because he assures the public that the Western Union is not a monopoly. It is the political danger that might follow government control that thrills the soul of the good doctor and causes him to tremble for the permanency of the republic. Such patriotism deserves to be embalmed in print, and the doctor is determined, so long as he controls the wires, not to waste his mental sweetness on the desert air of the committee on postoffices and postroads, but publish it far and wide.

The views of Captain C. E. Dutton, chief engineer of the irrigating survey, recently submitted to the house committee, come nearer solving the irrigation question in a practical way than any yet advanced. He urges the importance of passing a law which will define water rights and prevent a monopoly of streams which are essential to the reclamation of the arid belt. A large number of corporations have already acquired control of valuable water rights and brought under cultivation a vast area of adjacent land. But the privilege is liable to abuse. It tends to prevent the reclamation of an amount of land in proportion to the volume of water. State and territorial regulations are insufficient to guard the vast interests involved. A federal law is necessary to define the water naturally tributary to a stream and to prevent needless waste of the waters, to limit the area controlled by each individual and to properly divide the points at which streams may be tapped with ditches. Such a law will secure the greatest good for the greatest number and prevent one state from diverting all the waters of interstate streams to the detriment of people distant from the headwaters.

THE ROGUS TURNER CIRCULAR.

The Turner circular to publishers of newspapers in this state has already been denounced as spurious by this paper. The following letter throws further light upon this piece of cunning prohibition imposture, although it does not enlighten us as to its author:

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 19.—To the Editor of The Bee: A circular letter has been issued to newspapers in Nebraska asking for advertising rates on anti-prohibition matter signed by Charles Turner, Louisville, Ky. Diligent inquiry fails to disclose who this Charles Turner is or any advertising agency of which he could be a member. I do not know anything about this scheme but from the similarity of the name to mine and from the nature of enclosed clippings which I also send you, and which are taken from literature of the National Protective association, I am led to believe that this is a fraudulent scheme on the part of the prohibitionists to entrap the newspapers of this state by means of a price at which they will insert anti-prohibition matter, and then publish their copies in the Voice or some other prohibition organ as evidence that anything these papers may have to say editorially or otherwise is paid for by the liquor interests of the United States.

I write you these facts in order to set myself right, as I have never issued any such circular as the one sent out over the name of "Charles Turner, special advertising agent." Very truly yours, CHAS. C. TURNER.

As we said once before, the "Charles Turner" circular was a scurvy trick of which every reputable and honest prohibitionist must feel heartily ashamed.

THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.
The house committee on immigration is not wholly satisfied with the information it obtained in the eastern cities, and is going to prosecute a further inquiry in Chicago. It is understood that its purpose in visiting that city is to gather information and advice as to the advisability of requiring an educational qualification for immigrants. The committee is said to have a measure nearly ready to report to the house, but it is in some doubt as to what it should do in the matter of providing that persons coming into this country shall be acceptably educated.

It may be doubted whether Chicago is the best place in which to seek the desired information. There is no city in the country where the prejudice against foreigners is stronger among the class of people from whom the committee will obtain the most of its information and advice. But independent of what the committee may learn there, it may be said that public sentiment will be favorable to legislation requiring that persons coming into the country shall have some education. Nobody would approve of admitting people who could not read and write, and on the other hand no reasonable man would ask that the educational qualification of an immigrant be more than is necessary to enable him to read and understand the constitution and laws of the country. Unquestionably it is not desirable to admit the absolutely illiterate. This class, native and foreign, is quite large enough in the country already. But on the other hand there is no necessity for placing the standard of scholarship so high that the most acceptable class of foreigners will be kept out and the political agitators abroad will have no difficulty in securing admission. The question of an educational qualification need not be a difficult one, and why the house committee should deem it necessary to go to Chicago for information and advice is not easy to understand. All that is necessary is to provide that persons coming into the country shall be able to read and write intelligibly in their own language, and the committee certainly cannot need to visit Chicago in order to learn this.

THE ORIGINAL PACKAGE ISSUE.
There was a very instructive discussion in the United States senate Tuesday on the bill of Senator Wilson of Iowa to allow states to prohibit the importation of liquors. There is perhaps no subject of more interest than this, if there is any of greater importance, before the people of this country, and the opinions of the leading men of congress on the question will be regarded with great concern by those who believe in prohibition and those who advocate some other method of regulating the liquor traffic. As the matter stands there is a difference of opinion as to whether the decision of the supreme court in the "original package" case goes to the extent of affecting all legislation relating to the liquor traffic, that is, whether license or tax laws of a state are rendered practically nugatory in relation to liquors imported into a state and sold in the original packages. The opinion of the minority of the supreme court certainly is to the effect that the decision goes to this extent, but the consensus of public opinion does not agree with this view. On the contrary, it is held that the decision does not interfere with the right of the states to regulate the liquor traffic, and that a tax or license law, making no discrimination between liquors handled by citizens of a state and non-residents, can be enforced. Numerous decisions of the supreme court are cited in support of this position, and its reasonableness seems entirely clear. The argument is that while a state cannot exclude liquors brought within its jurisdiction from another state, without the permission of congress, because to do so would be an interference with interstate commerce, it can prescribe and enforce the conditions under which such liquor shall be sold in the state, either by tax or license. The state has no power in itself to shut out importation of liquor, but it may require that persons disposing of it shall pay a tax or license for the privilege of doing so, provided that such regulation operates equally upon all persons engaged in the traffic.

The supreme court distinctly held that it is in the power of congress to permit a state to exclude liquor or any other article of commerce which the legislature may by act declare to be inimical to the health or morality of the people of a state. Thus opium, tobacco, and a number of other things could be prohibited from coming into a state if congress were to allow it to be done. The question involved in the bill of Mr. Wilson of Iowa is whether it is wise for congress to exercise its authority to allow a state to shut out any article of commerce which its legis-

lature may presume to be unhealthy or undesirable for the use of its people. If a state is allowed to do this in the case of liquors, as a concession to its police powers, where is the line to be drawn at which congress should refuse to permit a state to exclude articles of commerce? Certainly whisky is not the only article the use of which may be deleterious to health and morals.

The Farmers of Nebraska.

Hon. Charles Howe of Nebraska is reported as saying that the banks are sapping the life blood out of the state. The Omaha Republican seems to take this view of it and declares with a good deal of spirit that "there is no business under any circumstances that will pay for 2 to 4 per cent a month upon the investment, and when farmers and other business men borrow of the banks at such exorbitant rates they are adopting a policy that will soon bring their face to face with bankruptcy." There is no room for dispute upon that point, but it would seem as if it might be questioned that any considerable amount of business was done in Nebraska at such exorbitant rates of interest.

It is well to remember that in Nebraska just now there is strong political pressure to influence the farmers to some sort of political party in the interest of gentlemen who are not distinctive farmers. In considering the case of the banks it is well to bear in mind that a peculiar campaign is now in progress in that state.

It is fair to presume that the business of Nebraska is done as a rule on as cheap a money market as that of western Iowa, and it is not true of western Iowa that the rates of interest among farmers, or in the transaction of business, are considerable volumes, as anything like those alleged as prevailing in Nebraska.

It is easy to say severe things of the banks, for the simple fact that the banks do not cast many votes; but it is only just to say that if the banks are "sapping the life blood of the state," as Mr. Howe alleges, the fault is primarily with the people who have permitted themselves to be placed in so great straits. Mr. Howe, by the way, is a corporation lawyer, and the farmers of Nebraska have so far exhibited a stronger disposition to get after the corporations than they have to get after the banks. It is a condition of their own making if they are in the grasp of the money-lenders. They are in the power of the banks, and the banks are in the power of the money-lenders, and it is the responsibility which they are individually responsible.

Money-lenders, particularly in the smaller towns and where they deal in a small way, are not, as a rule, above taking all they can get, and the greed of these men ought to be curbed, so far as that may be done under statutory regulations. It is a subject to which the next legislature may well give attention. It is a question of such prime importance as has been suggested may safely be doubted.

It is doubtless true that the farmers of Nebraska, as the farmers of Iowa, of the Dakotas, and indeed of all the states, have been too ready to go into needless debt. Prudent loans are not infrequently the best investments they can make, but these should be undertaken safely. It is a question of such prime importance as has been suggested may safely be doubted.

THE BUSINESS MEN.
Omaha extends a cordial welcome to the representative business men of the state. It is in the power of the association to contribute materially to the prosperity of the state while guarding their own interests. The internal commerce of the state has reached a point demanding united and vigilant action. Competition is sharp and sleepless. It prevails all departments of trade. Union is essential to protect home interests from unjust discrimination. Nebraska business men are capable of holding their own with any in the land, if given a fair field, and that they propose to secure by a long pull and a strong pull together.

THE CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS ACCOMPANYING RECENT OFFERS OF PARKS AND BOULEVARDS, points out the importance of carefully scrutinizing these tenders. The decision of the district court in the Hanson park case, which a virtually imposes on the public at large the cost of improving surrounding streets, shows the necessity of vigilance to prevent like injustice in the future. The city at large is taxed for the care and improvement of parks and boulevards, enhancing the value of surrounding property annually, and any attempt to release such property from special improvement taxes should be promptly repudiated.

WHENEVER the public attempts to curb the corporations, it is the custom of late to set up the plea of "taking property without due process of law." But when the railroads want something of value they do not stop to consider the effect on others. The attempt to close up Seventeenth street "without due process of law" shows how readily the corporations will attack the rights of property owners if there is a possibility of gaining an advantage.

THE PROPOSITION TO VACATE SEVENTEENTH STREET at the railroad tracks should not receive a moment's serious consideration from the council. Property owners have some rights which the council cannot set aside for the convenience of the railroads. While it is desirable to abolish grade crossings whenever practicable, streets must not be closed up and the interests of individuals injured at the request of the corporations.

THE ACTION OF THE ANTI-MONOPOLY CONVENTION does not meet the approval of the political hermaphrodites of these parts. Of course not. The meeting was not organized for the benefit of mugwumps and hybrids.

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Congress might pass these-called census law of 1899 a dozen times, and it would be not the loss a usurpation and an outrage. Public sentiment should concern itself very promptly and vigorously with the proposed invasion of the sanctity of the sick chamber and the private account book.

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UNJUST RAILROAD TARIFFS.

The State Board of Transportation Hears Complaints.

THURSTON WAS THERE IN HIS GLORY.
Through His Gold-Bowed Glasses He Failed to See as Shippers See—The Grange Conference—City Notes.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 21.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Today was the time set by the state board of transportation for the hearing of complaints from the people concerning excessive railroad tariffs. There were a number of farmers and other persons present whose business is seriously affected by exorbitant railroad freights, but they were largely outnumbered by the railroad cappers, who were out in full force.

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AFTER TWELVE YEARS.

Wyoming's Territorial Treasurer Wins a Suit Against the Government.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 21.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Luko Voorhees, territorial treasurer, is a happy man today. He has received a telegram from Washington announcing that he had won his case against the government involving about \$14,000.

In 1878 Mr. Voorhees had a contract in the Red river country carrying mails into Manitoba. A government inspector visited the place and on his statement that the contractor was not performing sufficient service under the contract the rate was promisorily discontinued by the postoffice department. The government at that time owed Mr. Voorhees about \$14,000, which it declined to pay him. Suit was commenced on the ground that the contractor had religiously carried out his contract and that the rate was arbitrarily discontinued by the postoffice department. The supreme court, which after this long delay awards Mr. Voorhees \$14,000 with interest, besides clearing his skirts of any odium which might attach to him because of the poor performance of his duty.

Extensive Washouts in Maine.
WASHOON, Me., May 21.—Yesterday six washouts were reported on the Upper Coast railroad in New Hampshire, wrecking a train. Another train that started out to make repairs went through an undermined bridge six miles north of Stratford, J. Twobey, superintendent of the road and a sectionman are reported killed.

Fort Wayne Road Affairs.
PITTSBURG, Pa., May 21.—At the annual meeting of the stock and bondholders of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago railroad today the report for the year 1898 showed receipts of \$10,881,000, expenses \$9,375,000, leaving \$1,506,000, which the lessee of the company paid the stockholders \$1,157,000, leaving a balance of \$349,000.

The Canadian Irish League.
MONTREAL, May 21.—A meeting of the Irish National league was held last night at which a resolution was adopted expressing confidence in the administration of the affairs of the American National league and deprecating the fact that discussions existed among the friends of Ireland.

An Elegant Brute.
LONDON, May 21.—[Special Cablegram to THE BEE.]—A fine plain Irish pig was yesterday in the city of Mrs. Knight, a widow, against Dr. Louis Engel, late musical critic for the London World, for the seduction of her daughter, Bertha, who was formerly a pupil of Dr. Engel. Damages of £2,000 were awarded.

Plate Glass Jobbers Pooling.
PITTSBURG, May 21.—A meeting of plate glass jobbers and manufacturers is being held here today for the purpose of forming a pool to control the trade of the country and prevent a cutting of prices. Representatives are present from New York, Chicago, St. Louis and other cities.

Off to Fullerton.
The Omaha delegation to Fullerton left in a special train of four cars at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Among those in the party were: E. Dickinson, J. S. Tobett, Joseph H. Millard, J. M. Barr, P. J. Nichols, C. N. Dietz, W. J. Broatch, Thomas Swobis, Joseph Thompson of Jones City, J. L. Lane, state superintendent of public institutions; Brad D. Slaughter, Datus Brooks, John Peters, C. E. Cook, J. A. Hoakland, Dick Bertha, H. H. Guntion, John Brady, Captain Phillips, E. A. Benson, Sherman Canfield, Joe Toston, John Leichterberger and Thomas Kilpatrick. They were joined here by several gentlemen from Weston, Ia.

An Old Argument.
The motion of the attorney in the Helfenstein case to remove from the jurisdiction of Judge Dundy the cases involving the Paulsen addition was presented yesterday morning. The court refused to hear arguments on the case had already been fully presented in former arguments on which he would base his decision.

School Bond Proposition.
There will be a meeting of the taxpayers and citizens of Lowe's addition and vicinity Saturday evening next at the Franklin street school, Thirty-fifth and Franklin streets, for the purpose of discussing the school bond proposition.

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